

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A pressure sensitive adhesive comprising an aqueous dispersion of a polymer, said dispersion comprising, besides the polymer, at least one silicon ~~compounds~~ compound selected from the group consisting of polymeric silicates, water-soluble alkali metal silicates (waterglass), silanes, and silicones ~~obtainable~~ obtained from the silanes by condensation and wherein the silicon compound is in the form of discrete particles having a weight-average diameter of from 5 to 200 nanometers.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): ~~An~~ The pressure sensitive adhesive as claimed in claim 1, wherein said silicon ~~compounds are~~ compound is an aqueous ~~solutions~~ solution of alkali metal silicates (waterglass).

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): ~~An~~ The pressure sensitive adhesive as claimed in claim 1, wherein said silicon ~~compounds are silanes~~ compound is a silane having alkoxy groups which can be condensed to silicones.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): ~~An~~ The pressure sensitive adhesive as claimed in claim 3, wherein the ~~silanes contain~~ silane contains, besides the alkoxy groups, at least one hydrophilic ~~groups~~ group selected from the group consisting of hydroxyl, epoxy, carboxyl, mercapto, and amino groups.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): ~~An~~ The pressure sensitive adhesive as claimed in claim 4, wherein said hydrophilic groups are amino groups.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): ~~An~~ The pressure sensitive adhesive as claimed in claim 1, containing from 0.001 to 10 parts by weight of said silicon compounds compound per 100 parts by weight of the polymer dispersed in said dispersion.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): ~~Adhesive~~ The pressure sensitive adhesive as claimed in claim 1, ~~obtainable~~ obtained by dispersing the silicon ~~compounds~~ compound in the aqueous dispersion of the polymer.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): ~~An~~ The pressure sensitive adhesive as claimed in claim 1, ~~obtainable~~ obtained by ~~dispersing~~ predispersing the silicon ~~compounds~~ compound in water (~~predispersing~~) and then adding the predispersed silicon ~~compounds~~ compound to the aqueous dispersion of the polymer.

Claim 9 (Canceled).

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): ~~An~~ The pressure sensitive adhesive as claimed in claim 1, wherein said polymer is composed of at least 40% by weight of principal monomers selected from C1 to C20 alkyl (meth)acrylates, vinyl esters of carboxylic acids containing up to 20 carbon atoms, vinylaromatics having up to 20 carbon atoms, ethylenically unsaturated nitriles, vinyl halides, vinyl ethers of alcohols containing from 1 to 10 carbon atoms, aliphatic hydrocarbons having from 2 to 8 carbon atoms and two double bonds, or mixtures of these monomers.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): ~~An~~ The pressure sensitive adhesive as claimed in claim 1, wherein the polymer is composed of at least 40% by weight of C1 to C20 alkyl (meth)acrylates.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): ~~An~~ The pressure sensitive adhesive as claimed in claim 1, wherein said polymer is an emulsion polymer.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): ~~An~~ The pressure sensitive adhesive as claimed in claim 1, wherein the glass transition temperature of said polymer is from -60 to 0°C.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): A self-adhesive article, ~~especially a label, adhesive tape or sheet, obtainable using an aqueous dispersion as set forth in claim 1 as a~~ comprising the pressure sensitive adhesive as claimed in claim 1.

Claim 15 (New): The self-adhesive article as claimed in claim 14 wherein said self-adhesive article is a label, an adhesive tape or an adhesive sheet.

Claim 16 (New): A method for producing the self-adhesive article as claimed in claim 14 comprising applying said aqueous dispersion of a polymer to said article as a pressure sensitive adhesive.

DISCUSSION OF THE AMENDMENT

Claims 1-8 and 10-14 are currently amended.

Claim 9 is canceled.

Claims 15 and 16 are new.

The claims have been amended to clarify claim language.

The amendment to Claim 1 is supported by the claim as originally filed and by original Claim 9.

The amendments to Claims 2-8 and 10-14 are supported by the claims as originally filed.

New Claims 15 and 16 are supported by original Claim 14.

Upon entry of the amendment Claims 1-8 and 10-16 will be active.